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DORKING AND HORLEY RURAL DISTRICT

A N N U A L R E P O R T S

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and of

THE CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

for the year

1952

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West Hill House,
West Hill,
Epsom.

October, 1953

To the Chairman and Members of the
Dorking and Horley Rural District Council

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit an Annual Report for the year 1952, which has been prepared in accordance with Ministry of Health Circular 2/53.

So far as figures are a guide in these matters, the vital statistics suggest that 1952 was a healthy year in this district. The birth rate remained at the level which it has assumed since 1948, and which is now considerably above the rate for the county as a whole. The death rate fell to its normal low level after the higher figure experienced in 1951; when standardised for comparative purposes, the rate is well below the figure for England and Wales.

The infant mortality rate, considered to be a delicate indication of the health conditions of an area, was the lowest yet recorded in this district. For the fourth successive year the number of infant deaths did not reach double figures.

Infectious diseases gave little cause for anxiety. For the fourth successive year no case of diphtheria was notified and there has been no death from the disease since 1937. With only one case of poliomyelitis the district escaped lightly from the outbreak of this disease which seriously affected many other parts of the country, including some in Surrey. For the second year in succession the death rate from tuberculosis was very low, giving hope that this disease is now coming under effective control.

From the report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector the scope of the duties carried out in his section of the public health department will be realised. The work of all members of the department, whether engaged on indoor or outdoor duties, has been noticeable for its keenness and helpfulness.


It is a pleasure to record once more the support which has been given by the Council to promote the improvement of the public health, and particularly the encouragement which has been forthcoming from the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee. My thanks are also due to the Council's officers in other departments for the assistance and advice which they have willingly offered.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

CYRUS IVE

Medical Officer of Health



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STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

✓ Cyrus Ive, M.B., B.S. (Lond.), M.R.C.S. (Eng.), L.R.C.P. (Lond.), D.P.H.

x xx xxx Eric A. Atkinson, M.R.San.I.,

x	K.J. Tyler	A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.
	L.J. Foster	M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A., A.M.I.S.E. (resigned 31. 7.52.)
	D.D. Heath	A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A. (appointed 1.10.52.)

K.G. Cooper A.I.Hsg., A.R.San.I.

Senior Clerk: C.H. Argent
Shorthand/Typist: Mrs. F.I. Holt.
Telephonist: Miss M.E. Hamper.

Chief Clerk: B.C. Kennedy
Shorthand/Typists: Miss M. Moody (resigned 14.7.52.)
Mrs. E. Latter
Miss M. Worsell
Clerk: Miss E.M. Knight (appointed 7.7.52.)
Rodent Operators: C. Jordan (resigned Oct.1952)
W.J. Woodard

6 The Medical Officer of Health and his clerical staff act in a similar capacity for the Borough of Epsom and Ewell and the Dorking and Leatherhead Urban Districts.

x Holds the Royal Sanitary Institute Certificate as Inspector of Meat and Other Foods.

xx Holds the Royal Sanitary Institute Certificate in Sanitary Science applied to Public Buildings and Works.

xxx Ollett Silver Medalist 1945.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR

THE YEAR 19521. STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area (acres)	...	...	...	...	...	53,943
Population (Census 1931)	...	...	...	...	...	18,485
Population (Census 1951)	...	...	...	...	...	25,809
Population (Estimated mid-year 1952)	...	...	...	...	...	26,420

PARISHES COMPRISING THE DISTRICT WITH AREA, POPULATION,
NUMBER OF HOUSES, AND RATEABLE VALUE

<u>Parish</u>	<u>Population</u>	<u>Area (acres)</u>	<u>No. of Houses (Dec. 1952)</u>	<u>Rateable Value (Dec. 1952)</u>
Abinger	1,950	7,481	582	17,246
Betchworth	1,620	2,562	459	14,303
Buckland	660	1,362	220	8,634
Capel	2,075	5,694	697	19,906
Charlwood	2,620	6,901	807	31,620
Headley	590	1,640	150	7,109
Holmwood	1,100	3,749	310	10,376
Horley	11,104	7,449	3,513	107,650
Leigh	855	3,419	236	6,616
Newdigate	1,520	4,744	397	9,769
Ockley	905	3,400	272	6,946
Wotton	810	5,542	210	6,292
TOTALS:	25,809	53,943	7,853	£246,467

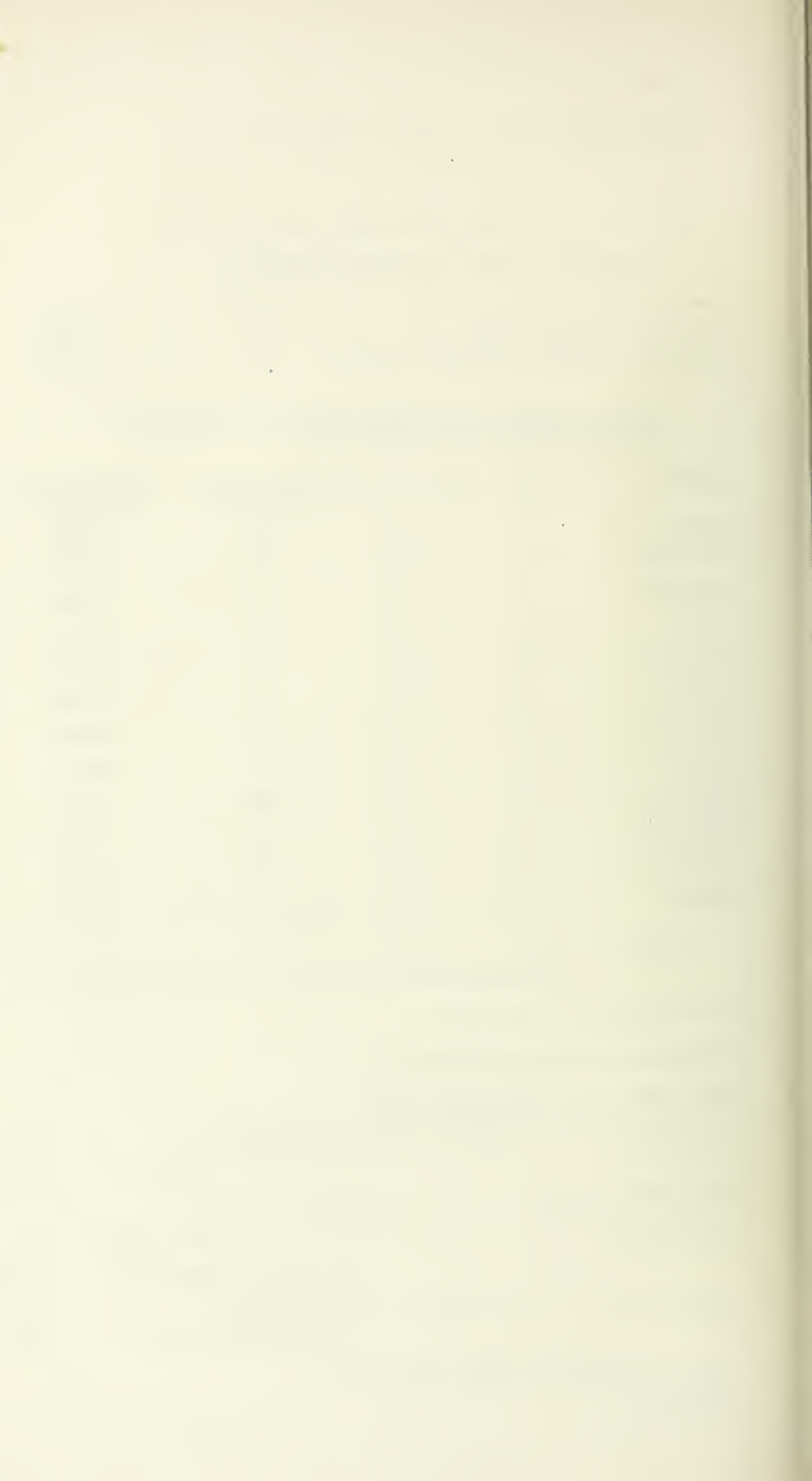
Sum represented by a Penny Rate £975.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR

<u>Live Births</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>		
Total Live Births	436	217	219	) Birth rate per	
Legitimate	425	212	213	) 1,000 Population	16.5
Illegitimate	11	5	6	) Standardised Birth rate	16.2
<u>Still Births</u>					
Total Still Births	7	5	2	) Still Birth rate.	
Legitimate	7	5	2	) (1) per 1,000 live & still	
Illegitimate	-	-	-	) births	15.8
				(2) per 1,000 population	0.26
<u>Deaths (net)</u>	293	136	157	) Crude Death rate	11.1
				Standardised Death rate	10.1

Deaths of all infants under 1 year of age

Total infant deaths	4	1	3
Legitimate	4	1	3
Illegitimate	-	-	-



Deaths of Infants under 1 month of age
(Neonatal Deaths)

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Total Neonatal Deaths	3	-	3
Legitimate	3	-	3
Illegitimate	-	-	-

Death rate of all infants per 1,000 live births 9.2

Death rate of legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births 9.4

Death rate of illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births -

Maternal Mortality:

	<u>Rate per 1,000 total</u> <u>Deaths (live & still) births</u>	
Puerperal Sepsis	-	-
Toxaemia of Pregnancy	-	-
Abortion	-	-
Other Maternal causes	-	-

Deaths from:

Measles	(all ages)	-
Whooping Cough	(all ages)	-
Diarrhoea	(under 2 years of age)	-
Neoplasm (Cancer etc.)	(all ages)	60

Table I shows a comparison of the vital statistics of the year for the district with those for England and Wales.

Table II shows a comparison of birth, death and infant mortality rates for the district since 1933 with figures for England and Wales during the same period.

BIRTHS

Live births numbered 436 of which 217 were males and 219 females. The birth rate was 16.5 per 1,000 of the population, compared with the rate of 15.3 for England and Wales. A comparability factor (0.98) has been supplied by the Registrar General, allowing for the differing age and sex distribution in different areas for use when comparing the local rate with those of other districts. After application of the factor the birth rate is reduced to 16.2.

Seven still births were registered during the year giving a still birth rate of 0.26 compared with the rate of 0.35 per 1,000 population for England and Wales.

DEATHS

The deaths registered in the area after correction for inward and outward transfers numbered 293 representing a crude death rate of 11.1 per 1,000 of the estimated resident population, compared with the figure of 11.3 for England and Wales. The total included 136 males and 157 females.

A comparability factor (0.98) has been provided by the Registrar General which may be applied to the crude death rate for use in comparing the local death rate with those of other areas. The factor makes allowance for the differing age and sex distribution of local populations. Application of the factor to the local rate reduces it from 11.1 to 10.1.

Approximately 43% of deaths took place in hospitals. The causes of death are set out in Table III. Heart disease, diseases of the circulatory system and cancer were again the most frequent causes of death in the older age groups.

INFANT MORTALITY

Deaths of children under the age of one year numbered 4 and the infant mortality rate was 9.2 per 1,000 live births. Comparable figures for 1951 were 8 deaths and an infant mortality rate of 19.4.

Three of the deaths occurred within 1 day of birth. Two deaths were attributed to prematurity, and one to congenital malformation.

This is the smallest number of infant deaths and the lowest infant mortality rate so far recorded in this district. These figures are a noteworthy achievement, and are a striking commentary on the success of modern methods of infant care.

MATERNAL MORTALITY

No death connected with pregnancy was recorded during the year.

2. GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

LABORATORY FACILITIES

Laboratories available to medical practitioners are provided at the East Surrey and St. John's Hospitals, Redhill. Examinations of specimens in connection with the diagnosis and treatment of infectious diseases can be referred to the Public Health Laboratory of the Medical Research Council situated at West Hill House, Epsom. This laboratory also undertakes bacteriological examinations of samples of water supplies, milk and food, including ice-cream.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES

The public ambulance service is under the control of the Surrey County Council, who have given the following information regarding the use of the service.

In accidents in the home or elsewhere or in sudden illness in streets and public places, any responsible person may call the ambulance to remove the patient (if by telephone use local Emergency Calling System). Normal maternity cases will be removed if the applicant can give evidence that a maternity bed has been booked. Maternity cases with serious complications, or where birth is imminent, will not normally be moved without the authority of a doctor or certified midwife who should travel with the patient in the ambulance. The removal of other cases of illness or accident will be arranged by the hospital concerned or by the medical practitioner in charge of the patient. For private removals a written request, accompanied by a doctor's certificate, should be made to the County Medical Officer for his consideration. Providing that these requirements are fulfilled, no charge will be made to users.

The main ambulance station for the area is the Smallfields section of the Redhill County Hospital (Telephone Smallfield 271) with sub-stations at Victoria Road, Horley, and at Harrowlands, South Terrace, Dorking. Calls for the use of an ambulance in the parish of Headley will be answered from the main ambulance station (Telephone Smallfield 271). For accidents or cases of sudden illness the local Emergency Calling System should be used.

HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION

Hospital accommodation, including that for infectious diseases is provided by the Regional Hospital Board.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES

CARE OF MOTHERS, YOUNG CHILDREN ETC. - The provision of services relating to the care of mothers and young children, midwifery, health visiting, home nursing, immunisation and vaccination, ambulance and domestic help is the responsibility of the Surrey County Council as local health authority. Day-to-day administration has been delegated to the Southern Divisional Health Sub-Committee and its officers, with headquarters at Caberfeigh, Hatchlands Road, Redhill (Telephone No. Redhill 3206).

I am indebted to the Divisional Medical Officer for the following information relating to clinics in the area.

Time-table of Clinics and their addresses

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE

Ewhurst Village Hall	1st & 3rd Fridays 2.p.m.
Peaslake Old School Room.	2nd & 4th Mondays 2.p.m.
Holly Bush, Holmbury St. Mary.	2nd & 4th Fridays 2.p.m.
The Vicarage, Betchworth	2nd & 4th Tuesdays 2.p.m.
Wesley Hall, Capel.	2nd & 4th Thursdays 2.p.m.

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GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

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Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics (contd)

Parish Hall, Charlwood.	2nd & 4th Wednesdays 2.p.m.
R.A.F.Rehabilitation Unit, Headley Ct.	2nd & 4th Wednesdays 2.p.m.
Congregational School Room, Walton-on-the-Hill	1st & 3rd Tuesdays 2.p.m.
Mansion House, Leatherhead.	Fridays 2.p.m.
Village Hall, North Holmwood.	1st & 3rd Thursdays 2.p.m.
Health Centre, Station Rd., Horley.	Wednesdays a.m. Fridays 2.p.m.
Health Centre, Leigh.	2nd & 4th Mondays 2.p.m.
Village Hall, Newdigate.	3rd Tuesdays 2.p.m.
Village Hall, Ockley.	1st & 3rd Fridays 2.p.m.
Parish Hall, Salfords.	2nd & 4th Tuesdays 2.p.m.
Dene Street, Dorking.	Mondays & Wednesdays 2.p.m.
Reading Room, Westcott.	2nd & 4th Mondays 2.p.m.

ANTE-NATAL

Dorking General Hospital.	Fridays 9.30.a.m.
Welfare Centre, Station Rd., Horley.	Wednesdays 2.p.m.
St. John's Hospital, Redhill.	Fridays 1.30.p.m.
Mansion House, Leatherhead.	1st, 3rd & 5th Tuesdays 1.30.p.m.
Epsom District Hospital, Dorking Road, Epsom.	Mondays & Thursdays 1.30.p.m.

TUBERCULOSIS

Dene Street, Dorking.	1st & 3rd Fridays 10.a.m.
1a, Cecil Road, Redhill.	Thurs.2.p.m. Every 2nd Thurs.5.30 pm
Health Centre, Station Rd., Horley.	2nd Wednesdays 10.a.m.
44, Waterloo Road, Epsom.	Tues.& Thurs.2.p.m. 3rd Thurs.5.30 pm.

FAMILY PLANNING

St. John's Hospital, Redhill.	Tuesdays 6 - 7.30.p.m.
Epsom District Hospital.	Fridays 7.p.m.

VENEREAL DISEASES

St. John's Hospital, Redhill.	Males: Mons. 5 - 7 p.m. Females: Weds. 5 - 7 p.m.
Royal Surrey County Hospital, Guildford.	Males: Tues & Fri. 5-7 p.m. Saturdays 2.30.p.m. Females: Mondays 2 - 7 p.m. Thurs. 9.30.- 11.a.m.

(And at the Out-patient Departments of many London Hospitals)

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS, 1948 and 1951

Section 47 of this Act gave power to local authorities to take steps to deal with persons suffering from chronic illness or infirmity, who for one reason or another are not receiving proper care and attention, and who are unable to manage for themselves. As might be expected, the majority of these are old people, who, in addition to physical illness, have some loss of mental power sufficient to curtail their reasoning powers but not serious enough to require their admission to hospitals for mental illness. There is a tendency for some of these old people to cut themselves off from relatives and friends and to refuse all help, and the conditions in which they live may reach a deplorable state of neglect before it is realised by relatives or neighbours that the matter should be reported to the Medical Officer of Health or to the Welfare Officer. Removal to hospital or other institution is by then a matter of some urgency to safeguard the invalid's life and to permit the cleaning of filth and rubbish from the existing accommodation.

Under the 1948 Act, power was given to the local authority to apply to the Magistrates Court for an Order to obtain the compulsory removal, for a period not exceeding three months, of a person found in such conditions. As the result of experience, it was found that the time taken to comply with the legal requirements of the Act in obtaining an Order for compulsory removal was so long that the practical value of the powers given by the Act to local authorities was curtailed. An amending Act which came into force in 1951 enables authorities to adopt a more expeditious procedure in cases requiring urgent attention.

No action was taken under this section during the year.

Water SuppliesPublic Water Supplies

Water is distributed in the rural district by two Statutory Companies, and by the Guildford, Godalming and District Joint Water Board. During the year this Water Board assumed the responsibilities of the Hurtwood Water Company in the parish of Abinger, and part of the parish of Wotton.

The Dorking Water Company obtains water from a series of wells sunk into the Folkestone beds on the western outskirts of Dorking. It serves the parishes of Capel, Holmwood and Ockley. The East Surrey Water Company obtains most of its water from deep wells in the chalk of the North Downs and supplies the parishes of Betchworth, Buckland, Charlwood, Headley, Horley, Newdigate and Leigh. The water supplied by the Joint Board to Abinger and Wotton comes from deep bore holes in the greensand in Guildford Rural District.

The chemical and bacteriological quality of the piped water supplies has remained consistently satisfactory and of a high standard of purity.

Water analysis

(a) Bacteriological examination - The number of samples taken for bacteriological examination was 72 (seventy-two), the reports on which are summarised as follows:-

<u>Source</u>	<u>Satisfactory</u>	<u>Unsatisfactory</u>
Dorking Water Company	3	-
East Surrey Water Company	6	-
Guildford etc. Joint Water Board	3	-
Private Estate Supply	3	-
Wells	15	35
Springs	<u>7</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>37</u>	<u>35</u>

(b) Chemical examination - Seven samples of water were submitted to chemical examination with the following results:-

<u>Source</u>	<u>Satisfactory</u>	<u>Unsatisfactory</u>
Dorking Water Company	1	-
East Surrey Water Company	2	-
Guildford etc. Joint Water Board	3	-
Springs	<u>1</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>7</u>	<u>-</u>

Typical reports on chemical samples taken in the areas of supply of the three Water Companies are as follows:-

TABLE OF COMPARATIVE CHEMICAL ANALYSES (Parts per 100,000)

	<u>DORKING WATER CO.</u>	<u>EAST SURREY WATER CO.</u>	<u>GUILDFORD ETC. JOINT BOARD</u>
TOTAL SOLIDS (dried at 180° C)	29.0	18.0	30.0
COMBINED CHLORINE	2.1	2.1	1.9
(Equivalent to Sodium Chloride (NaCl))	3.5	3.5	3.1
NITRIC NITROGEN (Nitrates)	0.66	0.76	0.58
NITROUS NITROGEN (Nitrites)	NIL	MINUTE	NIL
		TRACE PRESENT	
AMMONIACAL NITROGEN	NIL	0.0026	NIL
ALBUMINOID NITROGEN	0.0010	0.0006	0.0004
OXYGEN ABSORBED in 4hrs @ 27° C	0.009	0.10	.005
LEAD OR COPPER	NIL	NIL	NIL
TEMPORARY HARDNESS (equivalent to CaCO ₃)	11.5	4.5	11.0
PERMANENT HARDNESS (equivalent to CaCO ₃)	6.0	5.0	5.0
TOTAL HARDNESS (equivalent to CaCO ₃)	17.5	9.5	16.0

Water (contd)

DISTRIBUTION OF PIPED WATER SUPPLIES

During the year 314 premises were connected to piped water supplies, details being as follows:-

	<u>New Houses +</u>		<u>Existing Houses</u>
	<u>Private</u>	<u>Local Authority</u>	
Dorking Water Company	4	-	4
East Surrey Water Company	66	171	59
Guildford etc. Joint Board	<u>4</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>74</u>	<u>177</u>	<u>63</u>

+ The term "new houses" includes flats in houses structurally altered during the year.

Extensions of water mains were carried out in the parish of Charlwood (Bonnetts Lane), and Betchworth (Wellhouse Lane), bringing a piped water supply within reach of 16 dwellings, of which 14 had connected by the end of the year.

Extensions in the Haroldslea area in the parish of Horley brought piped water to 2 premises, and in the Henfold Hill area in the parish of Capel to 4 houses.

A further improvement in water supplies in the rural district took place with the laying of approximately 2,300 yards of four inch pipe linking the mains of the East Surrey Water Company with the Denbies Estate Reservoir at Ranmore. By this means the private estate supply from a well in the chalk at Westcott was eliminated as from 18th June, 1952. Forty-three houses previously dependent on the estate supply now take their water from the Company.

No progress was made with any of the main extension schemes agreed with the former Hurtwood Water Company. Although the Council gave instructions for the preparation of a scheme to serve the hamlet of Abinger Hammer, and had invited tenders for the work, it was subsequently decided to pass the scheme to the newly formed Joint Board for implementation on the understanding that no delay would result. At the end of the year, however, no further progress had been made.

The latest survey of the water supplies to occupied buildings gives the following results.

Estimated number of houses with a piped water supply	7523
" " " " " well water supply	175
" " " " dependent on springs	53
" " " " with rainwater storage facilities	2
" " " " without proper water supply	11

PUBLIC SWIMMING POOLS

There are 2 swimming pools in the district, to which the public are admitted. Three samples of swimming bath water were submitted during the year to bacteriological examination, with satisfactory results.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

Six of the 12 parishes in the rural district are provided with systems of main drainage. A short description of each installation was given in the Report for 1950.

The improvement in the standard of the effluent discharged by the Horley Sewage Works noted in the Annual Report for 1951, was continued during the year.

Drainage and Sewerage (contd)

DRAINAGE OF HOUSES

The drainage arrangements of the 314 premises connected with piped water supplies during the year was as follows:-

	<u>Cesspools</u>	<u>Sewers</u>	<u>Septic Tanks</u>
Local Authority	-	177	-
Private Dwellings	<u>103</u>	<u>31</u>	<u>3</u>
	<u>103</u>	<u>208</u>	<u>3</u>

The drainage arrangements of the houses in the rural district is estimated to be:-

No. of houses connected to sewer	4,440
No. of houses connected to cesspools	2,602
No. of houses connected to septic tanks	253
No. of houses without proper drainage arrangements	678
	<u>7,973</u>

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION

The closet accommodation in the houses in the rural district is estimated to be as follows:-

No. of houses with water closets	6,308
No. of houses with chemical closets	340
No. of houses with pail closets	1,306
No. of houses with privies.	<u>19</u>
	<u>7,973</u>

CESSPOOL EMPTYING

The problems attaching to cesspool emptying continued to absorb a large part of the attention of the Council during the year. As from the 1st April, 1952, the number of "free emptyings" was reduced from twelve to six times per annum, a decision which, although dictated primarily by financial consideration, was not popular with those householders who found the six free emptyings inadequate. The disposal of cesspool contents has continued to cause difficulties owing to the lack of suitable sites for tipping.

REFUSE COLLECTION THE DISPOSAL

The collection of domestic refuse in the Rural District is under the supervision of the Council's Engineer & Surveyor. The direct labour service was expanded during the year to provide for a monthly collection from those parishes where formerly refuse was collected by a private contractor. A comprehensive statement on refuse collection and disposal was given in the report for 1951.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 & 1948

The following return has been made to the Ministry of Labour and National Service in accordance with Section 128 (3) of the Factories Act, 1937.

Premises (1)	M/c Line No. (2)	Number on Register (3)	Number of		Occupiers Prosecuted (6)
			Insp- ections (4)	Written Notices (5)	
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	1	47	11	2	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	2	83	92	6	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises)	3	-	-	-	-
TOTAL		130	103	8	-

Particulars (1)	M/c Line No. (2)	Number of cases in which defects were:				Number of cases in which prose- cutions were instituted (7)
		Found (3)	Reme- died (4)	Referred to H.M. Insp- ector (5)	by H.M. Insp- ector (6)	
Want of cleanliness	4	2	2	-	-	-
Overcrowding	5	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature	6	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation	7	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors	8	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences:						
(a) Insufficient	9	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable of defective	10	3	3	-	2	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	11	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork)	12	3	3	-	-	-
TOTAL		8	8	-	2	-

No outworkers lists were issued to other local authorities.

The one hundred and thirty premises on the register of factories on the 31st December, 1952, were as follows:-

	<u>Part A.</u>	<u>Part B.</u>
Addressograph Manufacturers		1
Agricultural Engineers		2
Aircraft Repairers		3
Bakers	3	2
Ball Bearing Manufacturers		1
Band Saw Maker		1
Boot and Shoe Repairers	7	2
Broom Makers	1	-
Brick Works		8
Builders' Workshop	9	3
Cycle Repairers	7	-
Drawing Office equipment manufacturers		1
Electrical Engineers		1
Engineers		5
Explosive Manufacturers		1
Fine Art Stationery Manufacturers		1
Flue Block Manufacturers		1
Furniture Makers	4	1
Fur Processors		1
Gas Manufacturers		1
General Engineers		3
Garages and Motor Engineers	2	18
Instrument Maker	1	-
Laundries		4
Line Works		1
Plastic Manufacturers		2
Portable Building Makers		3
Printers		5
Radio Repairers	5	-
Research Laboratories		3
Rubber Tyre Processing		1
Sawyers		2
Super Charger Manufacturers		1
Tailors	2	-
Tool Makers		3
Undertakers	2	-
Watch Repairers	4	-
Valet and Dry Cleaners		1

4. HOUSING

J. Inspection of dwelling-houses during the year

1. (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for Housing defects (Under Public Health or Housing Acts) 604
- (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose 1667
2. (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head 1 above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925. -
- (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose -

No houses were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925 for the reason that following the completion of the "Hobhouse" survey all dwellings to which the Regulations were considered to apply, have been inspected and recorded.

3. Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation. 2

In respect of these premises the owners appeared before the Committee who adjourned the question of making Demolition Orders.

4. Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation 83

II. Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices:

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers 60

III. Action under Statutory Powers during the year:

(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act 1936.

1. Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs 1
2. Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:-
 - (a) by owners -
 - (b) by local authority in default of owners 1

(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts

1. Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring to be remedied 16
2. Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:-
 - (a) by owners 14
 - (b) by local authority in default of owners 1

(c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act 1936.

1. Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made -
2. Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders -

(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act 1936.

1. Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made. -
2. Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined the tenement or room having been rendered fit. --

Erection of New Houses

During the year continued progress was made in the provision of new houses, both by the Council and to an increasing extent by private enterprise. The number of Council houses and flats brought into occupation was 131, situated as follows:-

Headley	...	6
Holmwood	...	8
Horley	...	109
Leigh	...	8
		<u>131</u>

The total number of houses and flats owned by the Council on 31st December, 1952, was as follows:-

Number completed and occupied	589
Number under construction	102
Number of contracts let but not started	47
Number of pre-war houses	<u>210</u>
	<u>948</u>

5. INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Details of the work done by the Chief Sanitary Inspector and his staff in connection with the safety of food supplies in relation to health are to be found in his report. Of particular interest is the increase in the number of samples of milk submitted for the guinea-pig inoculation test for the presence or otherwise of tubercle bacilli. Ninety-seven tests were made, all on raw milk and the majority on milk derived from ungraded herds. It is satisfactory to report that no positive results were obtained.

ADULTERATION OF FOOD

The Surrey County Council continued to administer the sections of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, dealing with the adulteration of food. I am indebted to the County Medical Officer of Health for the information that a total of 119 samples for analyses were taken in this district by his staff.

Of those taken in this district 105 were of milk, 2 of beer, 1 each of essence of cinnamon and tincture of quinine and the remainder of miscellaneous articles of foodstuff. Eight samples of milk were found to be below standard. No prosecutions were undertaken.

The information was also given that within that part of the County in which the County Council acts as Food and Drugs authority a total of 1,627 samples were taken for analyses, including 1,264 of milk. On hundred and forty-one samples were found to be adulterated or irregular, 100 of these being of milk. Prosecutions were undertaken in 9 cases and eight convictions were obtained, one case being dismissed.

6. PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASE
NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Table IV shows the number of cases of infectious disease notified during 1952, classified according to age and sex. Table V shows the incidence of notifiable infectious diseases in the various Parishes.

SMALLPOX -- No case of smallpox was notified during the year.

VACCINATION AGAINST SMALLPOX -- During the year notifications were received from medical practitioners of 246 primary vaccinations, and 133 revaccinations which had been performed by them. Of the primary vaccinations 210 related to children under the age of one year, equivalent to 48.1% of the number of births registered in the district during the year.

SCARLET FEVER -- Twenty-six cases of scarlet fever were notified during the year, compared with 12 for the previous year. The case rate per 1,000 population was 0.98 as against 1.53 for England and Wales. Eighteen of the cases were admitted to hospital. There was no mortality from the disease which continued to be of a mild type.

With the change which has taken place in the severity of the course of this disease, and with the greatly improved methods of treatment by the use of the sulpha group of drugs and of antibiotics, the question is sometimes raised as to whether the time is not due for a modification of the procedure designed to deal with scarlet fever. This includes notification to the medical officer of health by the medical practitioner in attendance on the patient of the occurrence of the illness. Notification is followed by a visit of investigation by the sanitary inspector, with subsequent report to the medical officer of health. The latter requires the exclusion from school of children who have been in close contact, and possibly from work of some adults, for example teachers, children's nurses, and some food and milk handlers. Isolation of the patient is required, either at home or by admission to the hospital. Thus a considerable amount of time, money and labour is spent on what is now a minor illness in most cases.

On the other hand it is within recent memory that scarlet fever was frequently a severe illness, with a high mortality and with a series of complications capable of greatly reducing the expectation of life. It is suggested that the change in character of the disease and particularly the non-occurrence of renal complications may be due to the absence or inactivity of the specific strains of streptococcus associated with this severe type of scarlet fever. These conditions may be of a temporary character, and hence the need for caution in relaxing precautions.

DIPHTHERIA -- For the fourth year in succession no case of diphtheria was notified in the district. The case rate for England and Wales was 0.01 per 1,000 population.

Reference to Table V indicates the decline which has taken place in the incidence of this disease.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION -- Treatment can be obtained from general practitioners under the terms of the National Health Service Act, or from clinics arranged by the local health authority, these being held at regular intervals at all Infant Welfare Centres serving the district of which details are set out on pages 6 & 7. These arrangements are intended primarily for infants and others under school age. Clinics in schools are organised for pupils requiring treatment, usually the reinforcing course. The aim is for every child to receive a primary treatment of two injections at about the age of nine months, with secondary treatment consisting of single injections at every 3 to 4 years up to the end of school life to reinforce the original treatment. It is not claimed even with such treatment that absolute immunisation will be attained by every child, but there is clear evidence that the risk of an untreated child contracting diphtheria is four times as great as that of an immunised child, and that the risk of death is nearly thirty times as great.

Diphtheria Immunisation (contd)

Notificatiens were received from various sources that 306 children received primary treatment and 244 received reinforcing doses. Possibly some children may have been treated privately or in other districts, about whom information has not been received. The following figures show how the facilities for treatment have been used.

	<u>Primary Treatment</u>	<u>Reinforcing Treatment</u>
Treated at Clinics and Schonls	113	194
Treated by General Practitioners	<u>193</u>	<u>50</u>
	<u>306</u>	<u>244</u>

In 102 infants the treatment was completed before reaching the age of one year.

Of the child population of the district, it is estimated that 1,114 under the age of five years, and 2,639 over five years but under fifteen years, have received treatment.

ACUTE POLIOMYELITIS (INFANTILE PARALYSIS) - One case was notified, giving a case rate of 0.04 per 1,000 population compared with 0.09 for England and Wales. The patient was a girl aged 2 years residing in the parish of Capel. The illness occurred in October, the site of the paralysis being the right leg. The patient was removed to hospital for treatment.

WHOOPIING COUGH - One hundred cases of whooping cough were notified during the year, the case rate for the district being 3.79 per 1,000 population against a rate of 2.61 for England and Wales. No deaths were registered from the disease, but this is an illness which may have serious results on the respiratory system which may not show their full effects until later life.

The County Council has extended its scheme of immunisation against infectious diseases to include whooping cough, limiting the treatment to infants and young children.

PUERPERAL PYREXIA - One case of puerperal pyrexia was notified, the woman having been confined in her own home.

FOOD POISONING - No cases of food poisoning were notified during the year, the case rate for England and Wales being 0.13 per 1,000 population.

MEASLES - Twenty-seven cases of measles were notified during the year compared with 528 in 1951. The case rate per 1,000 population was 1.02 as against the rate of 8.86 for England and Wales.

TUBERCULOSIS - The names of 18 residents were added to the register, 11 of whom were suffering from disease of the lungs and 7 of other parts. There were also added the names of 4 persons who moved into this district during the year, having been notified previously elsewhere.

During the year a review of all names on the register has been made. As a result 47 names were removed, which included 25 of persons no longer resident in the district, 12 of persons considered to have recovered, and 10 because of death (4 in 1952 and 6 in previous years).

At the end of the year 135 names remained on the tuberculosis register, this being 25 less than at the end of 1951. The entries consisted of 91 cases of pulmonary tuberculosis (48 males and 43 females), and 44 cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis (26 males and 18 females).

Three deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis were registered, giving a death rate of 0.11. One death occurred from non-pulmonary tuberculosis giving a death rate of 0.04 and a total tuberculosis death rate of 0.15 compared with 0.24 for England and Wales.

Tuberculosis (contd).

An analysis into the types of disease, sex and age groups of the new additions to the register and of those removed by reason of death is to be found in Table VII.

Considerable efforts have been made in the past 5 years to combat tuberculosis. There has been an increase in the number of hospital beds available for the treatment of the disease; a great advance in the efficacy of drugs used; concerted efforts to improve the environmental condition of patients; increased facilities in the use of radiography for the examination of suspected cases of infection, and of their contacts; and the use of B.C.G. inoculation, though this method of prevention, which is still considered to be in the experimental stage, is reserved for a limited number of subjects falling within special categories.

The mortality figures set out in Table VIII suggest that these efforts may be having an effect on the course of the disease. Reference to the same Table shows the number of new cases notified each year has varied very little. If any good result has been obtained by such measures as have been taken to prevent spread of infection, they are probably masked by the increased use of radiography to detect lung disease resulting in the notification of cases in the earlier stage of illness.

A considerable decline in the incidence of the disease cannot be expected until a method of increasing individual resistance, such as B.C.G. inoculation, is in general use. The present policy guiding the administration of B.C.G. is based on the need for further controlled surveys of its effects on selected groups before its application to the general community.

TABLE I. COMPARATIVE BIRTH-RATES, CIVILIAN DEATH-RATES, ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY, MATERNAL MORTALITY AND CASE RATES FOR CERTAIN INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN
THE YEAR 1952

	England and Wales	Dorking and Horley
<u>Rates per 1,000 Population</u>		
<u>BIRTHS</u>		
Live Births	15.3	16.5
Still Births	(0.35 22.6 (a)	0.26 15.8 (a)
<u>DEATHS</u>		
All causes	11.3	11.1
Typhoid and Paratyphoid	0.00	-
Whooping Cough	0.00	-
Diphtheria	0.00	-
Tuberculosis	0.24	0.15
Influenza	0.04	0.08
Smallpox	0.00	-
Acute Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis	0.01	-
Pneumonia	0.47	0.34
<u>NOTIFICATIONS (Corrected)</u>		
Typhoid Fever	0.00	-
Paratyphoid Fever	0.02	-
Meningococcal Infection	0.03	-
Scarlet Fever	1.53	0.98
Whooping Cough	2.61	3.79
Diphtheria	0.01	-
Erysipelas	0.14	0.19
Smallpox	0.00	-
Measles	8.86	1.02
Pneumonia	0.72	0.23
Acute Poliomyelitis	0.06	0.04
(including polioencephalitis)	0.03	-
Food Poisoning	0.13	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	17.87(a)	2.3 (a)
<u>Rates per 1,000 Live Births</u>		
Deaths under 1 year of age	27.6	9.2
<u>Rates per 1,000 Total (Live & Still) Births</u>		
Maternal Mortality	0.72	-
(Puerperal Sepsis)	0.09	-
(Toxaemia of Pregnancy)	0.23	-
(Abortion)	0.11	-
(Other Maternal Causes)	0.29	-

(a) Rates per 1,000 Total (Live & Still) Births

TABLE II

COMPARATIVE BIRTH, DEATH AND INFANT MORTALITY RATES

Period	Average Annual Birth Rate per 1,000 Population (Annual Rates 1941 - 1952)		Average Annual Crude Death Rate per 1,000 Population (Annual Rates 1941 - 1952)		Average Annual Death Rate of children under 1 yr. of age per 1,000 Live Births (Annual Rates 1941 - 1952)	
	England and Wales	Dorking and Horley	England and Wales	Dorking and Horley	England and Wales	Dorking and Horley
1933-1940	14.9	14.1	12.2	12.0 (10.6)x	57.1	45.3
1941	14.2	14.1	12.9	11.9	59.	46.8 (18) +
1942	15.8	18.5	11.6	12.9	49.	55.1 (24) +
1943	16.5	17.5	12.1	12.6	49.	34.3 (14) +
1944	17.6	19.3	11.6	12.2	46.	27.5 (12) +
1945	16.1	15.8	11.4	11.9	46.	35.3 (12) +
1946	19.1	18.4	11.5	11.9	43.	29.0 (12) +
1947	20.5	21.0	12.0	10.0	41.	22.6 (11) +
1948	17.9	16.6	10.8	10.1	31.	29.3 (12) +
1949	16.7	16.3	11.7	10.0 (9.2) x	32.	19.5 (8) +
1950	15.8	16.7 (16.3)x	11.6	9.8 (8.9) x	29.8	20.8 (9) +
1951	15.5	15.8 (15.5)x	12.5	12.4 (11.3) x	29.6	19.4 (8) +
1952	15.3	16.5 (16.2)x	11.3	11.1 (10.1) x	27.6	9.2 (4) +

x Bracketed figures represent standardised rates.

+ Bracketed figures represent number of deaths.

TABLE III

CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE DORKING AND HORLEY RURAL DISTRICT

	M	F	Total
1. Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System	1	2	3
2. Other forms of Tuberculosis	1	-	1
3. Syphylitic Disease	-	-	-
4. Diphtheria	-	-	-
5. Whooping Cough	-	-	-
6. Meningococcal Infections	-	-	-
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-
8. Measles	-	-	-
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	1	1
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	4	2	6
11. Malignant neoplasm, lungs, bronchus	10	1	11
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast.	-	7	7
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus.	-	3	3
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasm	17	16	33
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	1	3	4
16. Diabetes	2	1	3
17. Vascular lesions of the nervous system	12	18	30
18. Coronary disease, angina	24	14	38
19. Hypertension with heart disease	2	8	10
20. Other heart disease	17	22	39
21. Other circulatory disease	6	7	13
22. Influenza	-	2	2
23. Pneumonia	4	5	9
24. Bronchitis	7	7	14
25. Other diseases of the respiratory system	2	1	3
26. Ulcer of the stomach and duodenum	1	2	3
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	2	-	2
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	3	2	5
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	5	-	5
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-	-
31. Congenital malformations	1	-	1
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	11	29	40
33. Motor vehicle accidents	1	2	3
34. All other accidents	1	2	3
35. Suicides	1	-	1
36. Homicide and operations of war	-	-	-
	136	157	293

TABLE IV

NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE

	Under 1 year		1 - 2		3 - 4		5 - 9		10 - 14		15 - 24		25 - 44		45 - 64		65 years & over		All ages		Total all ages both sexes
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
Typhoid Fever	1	1	2	4	2	4	2	4	2	4	1	1	1	1	2	4	1	1	4	2	27
Paratyphoid Fever	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	6
Meningococcal Infections	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Scarlet Fever	4	4	8	7	13	11	21	26	3	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	12	14	26
Whooping Cough	4	4	8	7	13	11	21	26	3	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	49	51	100
Diphtheria	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Erysipelas	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Smallpox	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Measles	1	1	2	4	5	3	7	5	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	4	1	1	4	2	13
Pneumonia	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Acute Poliomyelitis	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Paralytic (including Poliomyelitis)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Non-paralytic (including Poliomyelitis)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Food Poisoning	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Dysentery	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Malaria	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1

TABLE V

PARISHES

	Abinger	Betchworth	Buckland	Capel	Charlwood	Headley	Hollmwood	Horley	Leigh	Newdigate	Ockley	Wotton	Total
Typhoid Fever	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Paratyphoid Fever	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Meningococcal Infections	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Scarlet Fever	1	2	1	3	1	1	1	7	1	2	3	3	26
Whooping Cough	1	2	1	28	1	1	14	12	1	29	2	2	100
Diphtheria	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Erysipelae	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	3	1	1	1	1	5
Smallpox	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Measles	1	1	1	3	1	1	1	20	1	1	3	1	27
Pneumonia	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	5	1	1	1	1	6
Acute Poliomyelitis (including Paralytic Polioccephalitis) Non-Paralytic	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Food Poisoning	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Dysentery	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Malaria	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2
	7	15	1	36	1	1	14	49	1	32	8	7	169

TABLE VI

INCIDENCE OF DIPHTHERIA IN THE DORKING AND HORLEY RURAL DISTRICT 1934 - 1952

Year	Number of cases notified	Incidence Rate per 1,000 Population	Number of Deaths	Mortality Rate per 1,000 Population	Immunisation, No. of primary treatments in each year
1934	20	1.02	-	-	-
1935	5	0.25	-	-	-
1936	14	0.70	1	0.05	193
1937	13	0.64	3	0.15	168
1938	1	0.05	-	-	304
1939	1	0.05	-	-	268
1940	3	0.12	-	-	281
1941	3	0.12	-	-	961
1942	4	0.17	-	-	647
1943	-	-	-	-	625
1944	3	0.13	-	-	282
1945	1	0.05	-	-	260
1946	2	0.09	-	-	298
1947	-	-	-	-	303
1948	2	0.08	-	-	500
1949	-	-	-	-	268
1950	-	-	-	-	351
1951	-	-	-	-	323
1952	-	-	-	-	306

TABLE VII

	Primary notifications relating to persons resident in the Dorling and Horley Rural District.						Secondary notifications of persons already notified in other districts, now resident in the Dorling and Horley Rural District						Deaths			
	Pulmonary			Non-Pulmonary			Pulmonary			Non-Pulmonary			Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1 year	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 4	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
5 - 9	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 - 14	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 19	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
20 - 24	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 - 34	1	2	1	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35 - 44	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
45 - 54	2	1	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55 - 64	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 years and over	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
	6	5	4	3	-	1	3	1	-	-	-	-	1	2	1	-

TABLE VIII
TUBERCULOSIS INCIDENCE AND MORTALITY

Year	Primary Notifications No.	Rate per 1,000 Population	Inward Transfers	Posthumous Notifications	Total Deaths	Death Rate per 1,000 Population
1934	17	0.87	7	6	21	1.07
1935	19	0.95	12	3	7	0.35
1936	8	0.39	13	3	12	0.59
1937	22	1.08	7	2	12	0.59
1938	12	0.58	4	3	7	0.34
1939	15	0.72	6	1	4	0.18
1940	17	0.84	9	2	8	0.33
1941	26	1.05	8	3	14	0.56
1942	22	0.94	6	-	13	0.59
1943	22	0.97	8	1	15	0.65
1944	27	1.20	8	1	9	0.40
1945	23	1.07	8	-	15	0.70
1946	20	0.89	7	2	14	0.62
1947	22	0.94	7	2	7	0.30
1948	28	1.14	8	-	9	0.37
1949	15	0.60	5	2	4	0.16
1950	22	0.85	18	3	9	0.34
1951	20	0.77	14	-	3	0.11
1952	18	0.68	4	-	4	0.15

Public Health and Housing Department,
"Brookmead",
Station Road,
DORKING.

October, 1953

To the Chairman and Members of the
Dorking and Horley Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting for your consideration an annual report on the work of the Public Health and Housing Department during the year 1952.

The work of the Department continues to increase, and it is a pleasure to record that in some directions positive progress is now being achieved. With the completion of some of the water main extensions, many houses have now a piped water supply in place of unsatisfactory well and spring supplies. All departments are now actively engaged in preparation of main drainage schemes, and it is hoped by these efforts, to bring main drainage to areas where it is urgently needed.

There remains, however, one sphere of activity where no progress has been possible. The question of dealing with the unfit house. The rural survey showed that 275 dwellings were then regarded as unfit and incapable of repair at reasonable cost. Some of these dwellings have been improved, and others not included originally in the 275, have deteriorated. With the continued progress that is being made in the provision of new houses it is to be hoped that the Council will, at an early date, be able to make a start in clearing the worst of the miserable structures that in some parts of the district pass as dwellings.

Once again, I have to acknowledge gratefully the help and support given by the Chairman and Members of the Public Health & Housing Committee; to Dr. Ive for his constant encouragement, not only on Public Health problems, but on other matters of mutual interest; to all members of my staff for their loyal co-operation and support, and to the Chief Officers and staff of other departments for their help and advice on matters of mutual interest.

I remain,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

ERIC A. ATKINSON

Chief Sanitary Inspector and Housing Officer

PUBLIC HEALTH
INSPECTIONS

The total number of inspections on various public health matters was 2,474, as compared with 2,973 in 1951. The smaller figure is due, in part, to the fact that during the year one of the Sanitary Inspectors resigned and some nine weeks elapsed before his successor took up his duties.

Details of the various inspections are as follows:-

VISITS AND INSPECTIONS 1952

<u>Housing Act, 1936</u>	Inspections of Dwellings	38
	" re Overcrowding	3
<u>Public Health Act, 1936</u>	Inspections of Dwellings	566
	" " Moveable Dwellings	38
	" re Water Supply	118
	" Drainage work in progress	102
	" " Defective Cesspools	231
	" " Ditches and Watercourses	41
	" " Dustbins	40
	Visits re Infectious Disease	59
	" " Pests	59
	Inspections " Smoke Nuisance	3
<u>Food & Drugs Act, 1937</u>	Inspections of Bakehouses	30
	" " Butchers' Shops	90
	" " Cafes & Restaurants	126
	" " Cowsheds and Farms	16
	" " Dairies & Milkshops	4
	" " Fishmongers' Shops	31
	" " Ice Cream Dealers	45
	" " Sausage Manufacturers	8
	" " Other Food premises	80
	Visits to inspect unsound food	57
<u>Factories Act, 1937</u>	Inspections of Factories with power	92
	" " Factories without power	11
	" " Outworkers premises	3
<u>Petroleum Consolidation Act, 1928</u>	Inspection of Petroleum Stores	16
<u>Pet Animal Act, 1952</u>	Inspection of Pet Shops	3
<u>Sampling</u>	No. of samples taken - Ice Cream	14
	Milk	247
	Water	83
	Utensil Swabs	26
	Other unclassified visits	194
		<u>2,474</u>

NOTICES

One hundred and nine preliminary notices were issued during the year, under various Acts and Regulations, as follows:-

Housing Act, 1936

Section 9. ... 6.

Notices - (contd)

Public Health Act, 1936

Section 39.	Insufficient or inadequate drainage.	14
Section 50.	Overflowing or leaking cesspools.	33
	Inadequate or unsatisfactory sanitary accommodation at restaurants etc.	3
	Polluted ditches and watercourses.	3
Section 93.	Insanitary premises.	22

Water Act, 1945

Section 28.	Premises without a proper water supply.	4
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Food & Drugs Act, 1938

Section 13.	Unsatisfactory Food preparing rooms.	14
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Prevention of Damage by Pests Act

Section 4.	Infested premises.	2
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Factories Act, 1937

Section 34.	Inadequate means of escape in case of fire.	3
Section 7.	Unsatisfactory sanitary accommodation.	3
Section 1.	Dirty workrooms.	2

Of these 109 Notices - 82 were complied with without further action, and in 16 cases Statutory Notices were issued. Eleven preliminary, and 3 Statutory Notices were outstanding on the 31st December, 1952. Of the 26 preliminary Notices outstanding at the beginning of the year - 21 were complied with, and 5 were noted as not requiring any further action for the time being.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

(1) Generally

The supervision of premises where food is prepared or sold has been maintained throughout the year. Details on the Food Premises Register at the end of the year were as follows:-

	No. on (i) <u>Register</u>	Estimated No. <u>in District</u>
Baker's Shops	5	5
Bakehouses	4	4
Butchers	14	14
Fishmongers	2	2
Cafes	24	24
Factory Canteens	5	7
Fried Fish Shops	2	2
Grocers	14	16
Groengrocers	8	12
Hotels	5	7
Ice-Cream Dealers	58	58
Ice-Cream Manufacturers	3	3
Public Houses	25	34
School Canteens and Kitchens	3	3
Snack Bars	3	3

(i) It should be noted that premises are not entered on the Register until a full and complete inspection has been made. The difference in the figures in the two columns shows that there is still progress to be made in the inspection of premises where food or drink is sold for human consumption.

(1) After careful consideration, the Council decided that the condition of a Bakehouse in the district was such that legal action under Section 13 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, was justified. Among the matters requiring attention were - dirty walls and ceilings; damp and uneven brick floor of Bakehouse; absence of wash-hand basin with hot and cold water; absence of soap and towels; filthy W.C. compartment; no refuse storage accommodation; leaking roof; and the presence in the Bakehouse of articles not connected with the trade. Moreover, poultry had free access to the premises.

After many attempts to persuade the owner to improve conditions, the Council gave instruction for proceedings to be instituted, but the occupier decided that rather than appear before the Justices, he would give up the trade and close the Bakehouse.

2. Milk

Sampling is restricted to milk retailers retailing in the district and to school supplies. Particular attention has been paid to ungraded raw milk when submitting samples for the biological examination for tubercle bacilli. Two hundred and eighty-three samples were taken during the year, of which 97 were submitted for biological examination, and the remainder to bacteriological examination. The results of the examination were as follows:-

From Retail producers in the District

	<u>No. of samples</u>	<u>Satisfactory</u>	<u>Unsatisfactory</u>
Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised)	15	11	4
Tuberculin Tested	32	25	7
Accredited	3	3	-
Pasteurised	20	16	4
Ungraded	<u>48</u>	<u>46</u>	<u>2</u>
	<u>118</u>	<u>101</u>	<u>17</u>

From Retailers whose premises are outside the rural district

Pasteurised	2	2	-
Sterilised	6	6	-
Tuberculin Tested	1	1	-
Ungraded	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>12</u>	<u>12</u>	

From School Milk Supplies

Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised)	1	1	-
Tuberculin Tested	31	22	9
Pasteurised	<u>24</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>3</u> (a)
	<u>56</u>	<u>45</u>	<u>12</u>

<u>GRAND TOTALS</u>	<u>186</u>	<u>157</u>	<u>29</u>
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(a) Note - Retailers are under contract with the Education Authority to supply pasteurised or tuberculin tested milk to Schools. The fact that 3 samples of milk were found not to comply with the tests for pasteurised milk does not necessarily imply any failure in the heat treatment processing, but that the samples were not in fact "pasteurised" as required by the contract.

Milk (contd)

The number of samples proving unsatisfactory is larger than usual, and upon an examination of the reports it is found that nine samples failed in the first two weeks in July, 1952, when the atmospheric temperature was well above the average. Contributing causes for these results may be found in inadequate cool storage facilities at Schools; by the great length of some rounds in country districts, or by failure to cool milk promptly and efficiently on production.

The 97 samples submitted for biological examination were all reported to be negative for the bacillus of tuberculosis. They were taken from the following grades:-

(1)	Raw Milk	=	Tuberculin Tested	19
			Non-designated	74
(2)	Heat Treated	=	Pasteurised	4

Registration and Licences

At the end of the year there were thirty-six persons or firms on the register of distributors, and the following licences had been issued in respect of graded milks:-

Dealer's Licences

Tuberculin Tested	5
Accredited	-
Pasteurised	3
Sterilised	3

Supplementary Licences

Tuberculin Tested	3
Accredited	1
Pasteurised	4
Sterilised	3

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

The services provided by the Council were renewed during the year with the result that the number of Operators was reduced to one. This Operator was designated Pests Officer and assumed responsibility for carrying out the work throughout the rural district, not only relating to rats and mice but also to include other pests.

The following table summarised the work carried out:-

<u>Type of Property</u>	<u>No. of Reports of Infestation</u>		<u>Infestations found and treated</u>			
	<u>Notified by Occupier</u>	<u>Otherwise Discovered</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Rats</u>		<u>Mice</u>
				<u>Major</u>	<u>Minor</u>	
Local Authorities Properties	-	13	13	1	10	-
Dwellings	118	82	200	7	50	20
Business Premises	40	64	104	-	24	22
Agricultural Premises	15	52	67	7	12	-
	173	211	384	15	96	42

Notes:

- (a) 48 "Block" control schemes were carried out.
- (b) In September, Sewer Maintenance Treatment was carried out when all manholes where "Takes" were recorded during the last treatment were tested and then 10% of all the remaining sewer manholes were test-baited. In no instance was any infestation found.

From time to time, manufacturers of rodenticides place on the market new preparations designed for use as poisons, and concerning which, oft times glowing claims are made. It cannot be denied that new effective materials are being produced, and in considering whether they shall be used, opportunity is taken to carry out field trials. Such a trial has recently been made with a rodenticide which is claimed to have different qualities and effects to the poisons generally in use. This product, known as "Warfarin" is an anti-blood coagulant, i.e. it causes the blood to thin with resultant internal haemorrhage and causes death by suffocation from lung haemorrhage, exhaustion due to loss of blood or shock to internal organs. As there are no sensory nerve connections to the circulatory system of rodents there can be no warning when haemorrhage occurs, and it is claimed that the rat consequently suffers no pain.

A disadvantage of poisons in fairly common use, such as Zinc Phosphide, Arsenious Oxide, or Red Squill is that they tend to create poison shyness, that the rats become prejudiced against the bait by seeing the violent effects produced amongst their fellows after taking the poison. With "Warfarin", death occurs from four to eight days after taking the bait, and no prejudice is produced against the bait or poison.

For comparative purposes it has been interesting to note the results in treatment of land comprising a dwelling house and attached mixed small-holding. This property has been subject to rat infestations and was treated last December by laying Red Squill Poison, and then, following notification of a return infestation in July, treatment was carried out with "Warfarin".

The points particularly worthy of note are:-

- (1) Red Squill requires four days pre-baiting before poison is included in the bait. "Warfarin" is added to the bait at the start of the treatment.

- (2) The cost of treatment was reduced by 50% in using "Warfarin".
- (3) Time in disinfestation by the Rodent Operator was also reduced by 50%; this saving being possible by fewer baiting points, a ready mixed poison bait and the avoidance of removing all pre-baits to lay the poisoned bait.
- (4) Baits not consumed at the end of treatment may be removed and used again - exposure does not reduce the toxic effect of "Warfarin".
- (5) Where domestic animals are liable to gain access to baiting areas it is considered safer than poisons previously used.

When Red Squill was used a high kill was anticipated by virtue that the treatment was carried out in December, at a time when rats do not wander far for food. The estimated kill was 45. In June, treatment was again necessary, and even though the kill by baiting at this time of the year is considerably less because of the presence of alternative feeding stuffs, it was estimated that "Warfarin" produced a kill of 25. A repeat visit showed that no further bait had been consumed and there has been no further complaint of rat infestation at this property.

The conclusions to be drawn from this and other disinfestations are that "Warfarin" enables an easier, cheaper, and more effective method of treatment as compared with the poisons previously in use, together with a marked economy in labour.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT 1948 - Section 50

During the year the Council were called upon to arrange the burial of one person in respect of whom suitable burial arrangements were not being made.

HORLEY MORTUARY

Eleven bodies were taken into the Mortuary during the year.

